Statement-II

Import of Synthetic and regenerated fibres suitable for spinning and machines for extruding man-made textiles.

(Value in Rs. Crores)

Year	Synthetic & regenerated fibres suitable for spinning	Machines for extruding man-made textiles
1980-81	96 53	0.20
1981-82	173.18	1.01
1982-83	145.66	0.23
1983-84	104.81	0. 45
1984-85	60.27	0.31
1985-86	63.63	0.53
1986-87	44.11 (P)	NA
1987-88	2823 (P)	NA

P : Provisional

Source : Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics, Calcutta.

Import of Timber

871. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what was the quantity of timber and timber products imported into the country year-wise from 1978 to 1988 so far and the value thereof;

(b) what are the reasons that prompted such imports; and

(c) what steps, if any, are being taken to stop or drastically reduce such imports for conserving foreign exchange?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) A statement showing the import of wood in the rough or roughly squared form during 1977-78 to 1985-86 is attached. Data is available upto March '86 only. (See Appendix CXLVIII Annexure No. 37A]

(b) Import of timber has been allowed with a view to conserve the country's depleting forest resources. Under the current policy import of all kinds of timber logs (if sawn and rectangular or square, the minimum size of log should be 10 cm X 10 cm X 2 m; if cylindrical, minimum size of the log should be 10 cmX2 m. length is allowed under Open General Licence to all persons for stock and sale. The import is allowed at concessional rate of duty. Consequently, actual users can import timber for their own use or procure the imported timber from stockists.

(c) From the data available, it may be seen that foreign exchange outgo on this account is minimal. Further, with a view to conserve forest resources, no steps are considered necessary to reduce such imports.

Godown storage facility for Cotton

872. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state: